

Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Longport

March 15, 2021 5:00 PM

Call to Order: President Roy Law called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Announcement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Law: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on March 12, 2021 and sent to the Current on March 9, 2021. Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Library's website and in Longport Borough Hall. Official action may be taken at this meeting.

Flag Salute

Recording of Attendance: President Roy Law, Treasurer Patricia (Trish) English, Secretary Erin Schiavo, Member Kate Subranni, Member Joanne Clayton, Member Dolores Wilson, Member Damen Tomassi, School Board President Carl Tripician, Library Director Ricky Gerhardt (all present for the meeting).

Also in Attendance: No additional people in attendance.

Absent: Mayor Nick Russo

Old Business: Approval of minutes from February 8, 2021 meeting. (Drafts previously distributed to board members). Trish English motioned for approval of minutes, Damen Tomassi seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comment: none

New Business:

President's Report: President Roy Law spoke about the notion of eliminating minor fines and lowering fines for non-book items. During this discussion, Ricky introduced the idea of adopting a resolution to authorize the approval of updated library policies.

At 5:09 Erin Schiavo motioned to amend the agenda to introduce Resolution 2021-06. Joanne Clayton seconded the motion.

Resolution 2021-06: A Resolution Authorizing The Approval of Updated Library Policies

Dolores Wilson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-06. Kate Subranni seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed

Treasurer's Report: Trish English reported that there was a beginning balance of \$593,795.21. She reported cash receipts in the amount of \$82.47. Cash disbursed in the amount of

\$27,281.96. The ending cash balance was \$566,595.72. Erin Schiavo motioned for approval of the report, Dolores Wilson seconded the motion. All in favor none opposed.

Bill Pay List: The bill pay list was reviewed and presented by Trish English, treasurer. There were no issues with the bill pay list, however there were discussions surrounding the legal fees the library had incurred and expenses that the museum has incurred. Ricky explained the legal fees were related to discussions with the library lawyer relating to updating policies and notices. The museum expenses were related to telecommunication. Dolores Wilson motioned to approve the bill paid list, Joanne Clayton seconded the motion, all in favor none opposed.

Director's Report: Ricky shared the February statistics for programs and circulation, citing that February's checkout statistics were the highest since September. Ricky reported that winter programming has continued to be mostly virtual, and that attendance for programs has steadily increased. In March, a culinary program held by local residents was highly attended. There will be a continuation of some in-person programs such as Book Club and Trivia, that will be held in the all-purpose room for March and April.

Ricky shared that the preparations for summer programming are moving forward, and the goal is to hold many of the programs outside and possibly utilize the all-purpose room. Anticipated Summer Programs will include concerts, authors, bingo, trivia, story time, and special events. Ricky has initiated a partnership with the Police Department and their community outreach in an effort to hold outdoor movies. A Summer event/history program is being planned and will include a town wide scavenger hunt.

In technology news, the museum added a new database called Creativebug, and the website for the Museum has been updated.

The HVAC installation for the second floor of the Museum is now complete and Wifi access points are scheduled to be installed.

Ricky shared that the date for the second round of the Construction Act was released shortly before the meeting, with a deadline of the first week in June. The Board discussed and agreed that Ricky should continue with the application with the goal of adding a second floor to the existing structure.

An additional conversation was held related to prizes for summer programs. Members agreed that gift cards for local establishments should be used in addition to small prizes.

Public Comment: none

Adjournment: Dolores Wilson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:39PM, seconded the motion, all in favor none opposed.